

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An air compressor, comprising:
 - an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure;
 - a shroud for enclosing said air tank, said shroud including a ribbing and a plurality of support members,
 - wherein said ribbing and said plurality of support members may be in contact with said air tank to assist in holding said air tank inside said shroud.
2. The air compressor of claim 1, wherein said plurality of support members are made of plastic.
3. The air compressor of claim 1, wherein said ribbing is made of plastic.
4. The air compressor of claim 1, wherein said ribbing comprises a first group of ribs in a first direction and a second group of ribs in a second direction.
5. The air compressor of claim 4, wherein said first direction is perpendicular to said second direction.
6. The air compressor of claim 4, wherein said first group of ribs intersects said second group of ribs.
7. The air compressor of claim 4, wherein each of said plurality of support members is in contact with one of said first group of ribs and one of said second group of ribs.

8. A portable air compressor, comprising:
 - an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure;
 - a shroud for enclosing said air tank, said shroud including a ribbing and a plurality of support members, said ribbing comprising a first group of ribs and a second group of ribs, said first group of ribs being perpendicular to said second group of ribs,
 - wherein said ribbing and said plurality of support members may be in contact with said air tank to assist in holding said air tank inside said shroud.
9. The portable air compressor of claim 8, wherein said plurality of support members are made of plastic.
10. The portable air compressor of claim 8, wherein said ribbing is made of plastic.
11. The portable air compressor of claim 8, wherein each of said plurality of support members is in contact with one of said first group of ribs and one of said second group of ribs.
12. The portable air compressor of claim 8, wherein said plurality of support members are symmetrically positioned.

13. A shroud for enclosing an air tank of an air compressor, comprising:
 - a ribbing extending from an inner wall of said shroud, said ribbing including a first group of ribs and a second group of ribs; and
 - a plurality of support members extending from said inner wall of said shroud,wherein said ribbing and said plurality of support members may be in contact with said air tank to assist in holding said air tank inside said shroud.
14. The shroud of claim 13, wherein said plurality of support members are made of plastic.
15. The shroud of claim 13, wherein said ribbing is made of plastic.
16. The shroud of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of support members is in contact with one of said first group of ribs and one of said second group of ribs.
17. The shroud of claim 13, wherein said first group of ribs is perpendicular to said second group of ribs.
18. The shroud of claim 17, wherein said plurality of support members are symmetrically positioned.

19. A method for holding air tanks of a range of sizes inside a shroud of an air compressor, comprising:

placing a ribbing on an inner wall of said shroud so that said ribbing may hold an air tank of a maximum size among said air tanks of a range of sizes; and

placing a plurality of support members on said inner wall so that said plurality of support members may hold an air tank of a minimum size among said air tanks of a range of sizes.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said ribbing comprises a first group of ribs and a second group of ribs, said first group of ribs being perpendicular to said second group of ribs.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein each of said plurality of support members is in contact with one of said first group of ribs and one of said second group of ribs.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said plurality of support members are symmetrically positioned.